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Dated: December 10, 2004

Signature:

*Richard H. Anderson*  
(Richard H. Anderson)

Docket No.: 30552/38911A  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
J. P. Droppleman

Application No.: 10/612,652

Confirmation No.: 5463

Filed: July 2, 2003

Art Unit: 3754

For: POST VALVE HAVING AN ANNULAR  
VALVE SEAT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

A copy of each non-US reference listed on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

Application No.: 10/612,652

Docket No.: 30552/38911A

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 30552/38911A. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: December 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Richard H. Anderson

Richard H. Anderson

Registration No.: 26,526

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)  
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/612,652-Conf. #5463
				Filing Date	July 2, 2003
				First Named Inventor	J. P. Droppleman
				Art Unit	3754
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	30552/38911A

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY <sup>1</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-2,924,421	02-09-1960	H. L. Pohndorf	
		US-3,549,121	12-22-1970	J. H. Mercier	
		US-6,230,737-B1	05-15-2001	J. Notaro et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		EP-0 500 207-A2	08-26-1992			
		FR-503 537	06-12-1920		No English Translation Available	
		DE-196 45 608-A1	05-07-1998		Abstract	✓
		GB-157,189	03-08-1913			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		International Search Report for International Patent Application No. PCT/US2004/022724 by the European Patent Office dated 15 November 2004.	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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PTO/SB/92 (09-04)

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Application No. (if known): 10/612,652

Attorney Docket No.: 30552/38911A

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26,526  
Registration Number, if applicable

(312) 474-6300  
Telephone Number

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IDS (Citation) by Applicant (8 References-5 provided) (1 page)  
Information Disclosure Statement